

**MINUTES OF THE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
ROOM W015, WEST OFFICE BUILDING, STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX  
January 28, 2008**

**Members Present:** Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Co-Chair  
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, Co-Chair  
Sen. Scott D. McCoy  
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard  
Rep. Keith Grover  
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod  
Rep. Brad King  
Rep. Curtis Oda  
Rep. Jennifer M. Seelig

**Members Absent:** Sen. Curtis S. Bramble

**Staff Present:** Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst  
Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst  
Carrie Griffith, Committee Secretary

**Note:** A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Rep. Hutchings called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Craig Moody, Honorary Colonel Association Utah Highway Patrol, introduced several Honorary Colonels from the Association. He expressed appreciation to the Subcommittee for helping with salary increases and resolving compression level issues. Stating the need for more troopers, Col. Moody informed the Subcommittee that there are as many troopers today as there were 25 years ago. He also noted the need for keeping troopers safe and recommended they carefully consider Rep. Frank's Bill on bulletproof vests.

**Department of Public Safety (DPS)**

Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the Budget Brief with the Subcommittee. Mr. Ricks explained the Analysts recommendations and answered questions raised by Subcommittee members regarding budget changes between FY 2008 and FY 2009.

Scott Duncan, Commissioner, addressed the Subcommittee and gave a brief overview of the background of the Department. He stated that 1,200 employees work for DPS. Several members were introduced to show the variety of programs and complex issues that are dealt with in the Department.

Lance Davenport, Colonel Superintendent Highway Patrol, thanked the Subcommittee for their support and commented that it has made a difference with the Utah Highway Patrol. He spoke about the Department's request for 22 addition troopers, showing posters that detailed workload

influences and suggested staffing levels. He explained the formula shown on the posters and responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

Keith Squires, Deputy Commissioner Colonel Homeland Security, described his main responsibilities with the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI). He stated the long-term goal is to assist troopers who have the desire and capabilities to become investigators. He also explained the duties and responsibilities of SBI.

Mr. Ricks answered questions regarding SBI budget requests.

Rich Townsend, Deputy Commissioner, referred to a booklet that was distributed to Subcommittee members provided by DPS. He briefly described some of the items in booklet, commenting that the varied and vast responsibilities within the Department are inspiring to him. He stated the Department's top four funding priorities are: (1) BCI; (2) Driver License; (3) Crime Lab; and (4) POST.

Joe Brown, Budget Director, responded to questions relating to Federal Funds and other budget items.

Mr. Duncan expressed appreciation to the Subcommittee for past support and asked for continued support to help fulfill the Department's responsibilities.

### **Guardian Ad Litem**

Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, gave a brief overview of the Budget Brief and the Analysts recommendations.

Keith Kelly, Chairman, assisted by Rick Smith, Director, addressed the Subcommittee. A handout was distributed and discussed by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Kelly directed the attention of the Subcommittee to a letter from the National Center for Youth Law which commended GAL for the work they are doing in Utah

Mr. Smith explained FY 2009 Building Block Requests, including Attorney Salaries (\$323,000 ongoing); Additional Attorney/Staff Positions (\$273,700 ongoing, \$13,200 one-time); Increase Conflict Rate (\$110,000); and Motor Pool Vehicles (\$42,000). He also discussed the Office's Vision and Mission Statement.

Mr. Kelly and Mr. Smith responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

### **Board of Pardons and Parole**

Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the Budget Brief and explained the Board's duties and responsibilities.

Curtis Garner, Chairman, accompanied by Clark Harms, Vice-Chair, addressed the Subcommittee, explaining the Board is the only entity that can let people out of prison.

A handout was provided and briefly explained by Mr. Harms. The handout gives an overview of the Board, details of where monies were used in FY 2008, and the Building Block Requests for FY 2009. The FY 2009 requests are as follows: (1) Caseload Growth—Staff (\$171,000); (2) Information Technology (\$45,000); (3) In-state Travel (\$17,500); and (4) Board & Staff Training (\$10,000).

Referring to a chart on the last page of the handout, Mr. Harms explained how hearings work, inmate count, and projected bed space needed in the future.

Mr. Garner and Mr. Harms responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

**Rep. Seelig, H.B. 65, “Crime of Strangulation or Smothering”**

Rep. Seelig, assisted by Ned Searle, Director Domestic and Sexual Violence, addressed the Subcommittee and encouraged them to include H.B. 65 on the Priority List. The bill has a fiscal note of \$139,500 (one-time \$46,500 FY 2009; \$93,000 ongoing FY 2010.) Mr. Searle expressed the desire that legislation be put in place making smothering or strangulation a federal crime. He shared a story illustrating a tragedy that occurred by a person who had previously engaged in this type of assault.

Debbie Johnson, Legislative Liaison, Department of Public Safety, addressed the Subcommittee. A handout “Utah Highway Patrol—High School Adoption” was distributed and discussed by Ms. Johnson. It details a program to educate high school students on the importance of wearing seatbelts. Rep. Hutchings asked the Subcommittee to consider placing this item on the Priority List.

MOTION: Rep. Oda moved to adjourn.

Rep. Hutchings adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

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Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Co-Chair

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Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, Co-Chair